

CINCINNATI BELL INC
Form 11-K
June 29, 2015
Table of Contents

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

(Mark One)

x ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF
1934

For the fiscal year ended December 30, 2014

OR

.. TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF
1934

For the transition period from to
Commission File Number 1-8519

CINCINNATI BELL
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

CINCINNATI BELL INC.
221 East Fourth Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Table of Contents

CINCINNATI BELL RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|-----------|
| <u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u> | <u>1</u> |
| Financial Statements: | |
| <u>Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits as of December 30, 2014 and 2013</u> | <u>2</u> |
| <u>Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits for the Year Ended December 30, 2014</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>Notes to Financial Statements</u> | <u>4</u> |
| <u>Schedule H, line 4(i) – Schedule of Assets (Held as of December 30, 2014)</u> | <u>12</u> |
| <u>Signature</u> | <u>13</u> |
| <u>Exhibit Index</u> | <u>14</u> |
| Exhibit 23.1 – Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm | |

Table of Contents

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Participants and Administrator of the
Cincinnati Bell Retirement Savings Plan:

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the Cincinnati Bell Retirement Savings Plan (the "Plan") as of December 30, 2014 and 2013, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 30, 2014. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The Plan is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audit included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 30, 2014 and 2013 and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 30, 2014, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The supplemental information in the accompanying schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 30, 2014 has been subjected to audit procedures performed in conjunction with the audit of the Cincinnati Bell Retirement Savings Plan's financial statements. The supplemental information is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but includes supplemental information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The supplemental information is the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our audit procedures included determining whether the supplemental information reconciles to the financial statements or the underlying accounting and other records, as applicable, and performing procedures to test the completeness and accuracy of the information presented in the supplemental information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. In our opinion the supplemental information in the accompanying schedule is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

/s/ Barnes, Dennig & Co., LTD
Cincinnati, Ohio
June 29, 2015

Table of Contents

CINCINNATI BELL RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
 STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
 (DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

| | December 30, 2014 | 2013 |
|--|----------------------|-----------|
| Investments | | |
| Investment in Master Trust | \$221,127 | \$209,257 |
| Notes Receivable | | |
| Participant loans | 4,485 | 3,897 |
| Employer contributions receivable | 1,000 | |
| Net assets available for benefits at fair value | 226,612 | 213,154 |
| Adjustment from fair value to contract value for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts | (204 |) (224 |
| Net assets available for benefits | \$226,408 | \$212,930 |

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

CINCINNATI BELL RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 30, 2014
 (DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

| | | |
|---|-----------|---|
| Net assets available for benefits as of December 30, 2013 | \$212,930 | |
| Contributions: | | |
| Employee (non-rollover) | 11,224 | |
| Employee (rollover) | 1,089 | |
| Employer | 5,689 | |
| Total contributions | 18,002 | |
| Employer contributions receivable | 1,000 | |
| Investment gain from Master Trust | 15,691 | |
| Interest on participant loans | 172 | |
| Transfers from other Company-sponsored plans, net | 642 | |
| Distributions: | | |
| Benefits paid to participants | (22,007 |) |
| Administrative expense paid by the Plan | (22 |) |
| Total distributions | (22,029 |) |
| Net increase in assets available for Plan benefits | 13,478 | |
| Net assets available for benefits as of December 30, 2014 | \$226,408 | |

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

CINCINNATI BELL RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) Plan Description and Accounting Policies

General: The Cincinnati Bell Retirement Savings Plan (the “Plan”) is sponsored by Cincinnati Bell Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, the “Company” or “Cincinnati Bell”) and administered generally through the Company Employees’ Benefit Committee.

The Plan is, subject to certain exceptions, currently available to all employees of the Company who are not hourly employees. Hourly employees are generally defined as employees either (i) who are represented by a collective bargaining unit (unless the applicable collective bargaining agreement requires their participation in the Plan) or (ii) whose position is an hourly-paid position that is or at any prior time had been otherwise subject to automatic wage progression or covered under the Cincinnati Bell Inc. Savings and Security Plan (an additional plan sponsored by the Company). However, an hourly employee hired on or after February 1, 2008 and in a position described in clause (ii) above, is generally eligible for the Plan.

In addition, certain other classes of employees (including but not limited to co-op students, interns, temporary employees and contingency employees) are ineligible to participate in the Plan.

These Notes to financial statements provide a brief description of certain provisions of the Plan, but do not constitute a document under which the Plan is operated. In the event of any conflict between these Notes to financial statements and the Plan documents, the Plan documents shall control. Participants must refer to the Plan documents and to the summary plan description for further details of the Plan.

The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”).

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared under the accrual method of accounting in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”). The Plan’s fiscal year (the “plan year”) begins each December 31 and ends the following December 30. The Plan’s trustee is Fidelity Management Trust Company (together with its affiliates, “Fidelity”).

In accordance with FASB Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 962 - Plan Accounting - Defined Contribution Pension Plans, the Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits presents the fair value of the Plan’s investments as well as the adjustment from fair value to contract value for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts. The Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits is presented on a contract value basis for the fully benefit-responsive investment contracts.

Employee Contributions: Upon commencement of employment by the Company, the Plan generally permits each participant to contribute each pay period, in before-tax dollars, any amount that is a whole percent up to a maximum of 75% of the participant’s plan compensation. A participant’s plan compensation for each plan year is only considered up to the maximum per the Code, which was \$255,000 for the plan year ended December 30, 2014.

For the Plan’s plan year ending December 30, 2013 and for pay days in the Plan’s plan year ending December 30, 2014 that occurred before April 28, 2014, a participant’s contributions to the Plan were made on a before-tax basis. Pursuant to an amendment to the Plan effective April 28, 2014, a participant’s contributions to the Plan can be made either on a before-tax basis or as Roth contributions. Roth contributions are made on an after-tax basis, but the earnings on such contributions can be paid later to the participant on a tax-free basis if certain conditions are met.

The Plan provides for newly eligible participants to be automatically enrolled into the Plan and contribute 3% of their plan compensation, which is invested in the Plan’s default investment option, an age specific Vanguard Target Retirement Fund. Plan participants may elect to change their contribution and investment elections or discontinue participation in the Plan at any time. However, by reason of an amendment to the Plan and certain “safe harbor” conditions having been met, a Code provision restricting the average level of participant contributions made by highly compensated employees was automatically met by the Plan for the Plan’s years ended December 30, 2014 and 2013.

Table of Contents

CINCINNATI BELL RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The amount of a participant's contributions for any calendar year generally cannot exceed \$17,500, the legal limit in 2014. If the participant is age 50 or older by the end of the calendar year, the participant is also allowed to make additional before-tax contributions up to \$5,500, the maximum amount per the Code in 2014. The amount of a participant's contributions is subject to additional provisions under the Code, which could further limit the amount of a participant's contributions for any plan year.

Participant contributions are allocated to the participant's account under the Plan ("Plan account"). A participant is always fully vested in the part of the Plan account attributable to employee contributions.

Except as noted above with respect to Roth contributions, a participant is generally not subject to federal income tax on the amount of employee contributions to the Plan or on the earnings on those contributions until the amounts are distributed from the Plan to the participant.

Employer Contributions: Under the current terms of the Plan (which applied to all pay periods occurring in the Plan's plan year ending December 30, 2014) the Company made matching contributions for each participant in an amount equal to the sum of: (i) 100% of the portion of the participant's contributions to the Plan for such pay period that were not in excess of 3% of his or her plan compensation for such pay period, and (ii) 50% of the portion of his or her contributions to the Plan for such pay period that were in excess of 3% but not in excess of 5% of the participant's plan compensation for such pay period. The amount of matching contributions made for a participant is subject to additional provisions under the Code, which could limit the amount of the matching contributions made for a participant for any plan year. However, by reason of an amendment to the Plan and certain "safe harbor" conditions having been met, a Code provision restricting the average level of matching contributions made for highly compensated employees was automatically met by the Plan for the Plan's years ended December 30, 2014 and 2013.

Matching contributions are generally made on a bi-weekly basis under the current practice of the Company and must be made by the end of the first full month that ends after the participants' related contributions are made.

The Company's matching contributions for a participant are allocated to the participant's Plan account. In general, a participant is fully vested in the part of the Plan account attributable to the Company's matching contributions. As of December 30, 2014, the Plan recorded a contribution receivable from the Company, which estimated historical contributions associated with certain overtime wages. The carrying value of these receivables approximates fair value.

A participant is generally not subject to federal income tax on the amount of the matching contributions or on the earnings on these contributions until the amounts are distributed from the Plan to the participant.

Rollovers: A participant may elect to rollover to the Plan an otherwise taxable distribution from another employer's tax-qualified savings, profit sharing, or other employer plan, if the distribution meets certain conditions set forth in the Plan and the Code.

Any rollover contributions are allocated to the participant's Plan account. A participant is always fully vested in the part of the Plan account attributable to rollover contributions.

A participant is generally not subject to federal income tax on the rollover contributions or on the earnings on the rollover contributions until the amounts are distributed from the Plan to the participant.

Employee-Directed Investments: A participant can specify the manner in which contributions made by or for the participant to the Plan shall be invested in the available funds under the Plan and may elect to change the funds to which future contributions are allocated and transfer amounts held in the participant's Plan account from one fund to another.

Distributions to Participants: A participant may receive a distribution of all or a portion of the Plan account while employed by the Company, only in certain circumstances.

In general, a participant, while still employed by the Company, may withdraw, for any reason, the part of the Plan account attributable to: regular (non-Roth) after-tax contributions (prior to December 20, 2004, the Plan accepted

regular (non-Roth) after-tax contributions); rollover contributions; and the Company's matching contributions made for plan years that ended before December 31, 2000.

Table of ContentsCINCINNATI BELL RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Further, a participant, while still employed by the Company, can withdraw amounts that are attributable to before-tax contributions if the withdrawal is required by reason of the participant's hardship situation, which meets the rules set forth in the Plan concerning hardship withdrawals, or if the participant has reached at least age 59 1/2. Any hardship withdrawal does not include the earnings on before-tax contributions that were allocated after December 31, 1988. Other than for the withdrawals described above, the distribution of a participant's Plan account will generally occur only after the participant's employment with the Company has terminated for any reason, including retirement, discharge, termination, disability, or death.

If the value of the participant's Plan account is \$1,000 or less, the participant's account can be distributed, within a reasonable administrative period, in a lump sum and without the consent of the participant after the participant's employment with the Company ends for any reason.

Participant Loans: Loans are available from the Plan to participants under the current provisions and policies of the Plan. Loans are subject to several conditions, certain of which are described below.

A participant cannot have more than two outstanding loans from the Plan at any time. The minimum amount of any loan to a participant is \$1,000, while the maximum amount cannot exceed the lesser of (i) 50% of the vested balance of the participant's Plan account excluding amounts attributable to the participant's contributions which were matched, the associated matching contributions from the Company, and any other Company nonelective contributions for the plan year of the loan and the two immediately preceding plan years and income earned after 1988 on the participant's before-tax contributions or (ii) \$50,000 reduced by the highest outstanding balance of loans made to the participant from the Plan and other plans of the Company during the one year period preceding the new loan date.

The Company Employees' Benefit Committee determines the interest rate charged by the Plan on a loan made to a participant. In general, the interest rate is based on the prime rate plus 1.0% at the time the loan is made. As of December 30, 2014, interest rates on loans made under the Plan ranged between 4.3% and 10.5% per annum. For the Plan year ended December 30, 2014, a participant also paid to Fidelity a \$35 origination fee for processing a new Plan loan and a \$15 annual maintenance fee for the life of the loan.

In general, any loan to a participant must be repaid through payroll deductions and be collateralized by up to 50% of the participant's Plan account. The minimum term of any loan to a participant is 6 months, and the maximum term of a loan is generally 60 months. A participant may extend the term of the loan to a maximum of 30 years, if the loan is acquired to provide the participant with funds to purchase a primary residence.

h. Investments: As of December 30, 2014, the following funds were available for investment under the Plan:

- American Funds EuroPacific Growth Fund
- Cincinnati Bell Inc. Common Stock Fund*
- Fidelity Growth Company Fund*
- Fidelity International Discovery Fund*
- Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio II Fund*
- Fidelity Mid-Cap Stock Fund*
- Fidelity U.S. Equity Index Commingled Pool Fund*
- LKCM Small Cap Equity Fund
- PIMCO Total Return Fund
- Vanguard Balanced Index Fund
- Vanguard Mid-Cap Value Index Fund
- Vanguard Target Retirement 2010 Fund
- Vanguard Target Retirement 2015 Fund
- Vanguard Target Retirement 2020 Fund

Table of Contents

CINCINNATI BELL RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- √ Vanguard Target Retirement 2025 Fund
- √ Vanguard Target Retirement 2030 Fund
- √ Vanguard Target Retirement 2035 Fund
- √ Vanguard Target Retirement 2040 Fund
- √ Vanguard Target Retirement 2045 Fund
- √ Vanguard Target Retirement 2050 Fund
- √ Vanguard Target Retirement 2055 Fund
- √ Vanguard Target Retirement 2060 Fund
- √ Vanguard Target Retirement Income Fund
- √ Vanguard Windsor II Fund
- * Party-in-interest funds

Purchases and sales of securities are reflected as of the trade date. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Income from other investments is recorded on an accrual basis.

Management fees and operating expenses charged to the Plan for investments in the mutual funds are deducted from income earned on a daily basis and are not separately reflected. Consequently, management fees and operating expenses are reflected as a reduction of investment return for such investments.

Administrative Expenses: Administrative expenses of the Plan that are not clearly related to a specific investment fund are generally paid by the Company. However, the Plan permits certain of these expenses to be paid from the Plan assets and allocated and charged to each participant's account based on the proportion that such participant's account balance bears to all account balances under the Plan.

Forfeitures: Any amounts forfeited by participants under the Plan (for instance, because such participants cannot be located) are applied to reduce subsequent contributions of the Company to the Plan. At December 30, 2014 and 2013, unapplied forfeited amounts totaled \$85,851 and \$58,232, respectively.

Transfer to/from Other Plans: If a Plan participant becomes a participant of the Cincinnati Bell Inc. Savings and Security Plan, another defined contribution plan sponsored by the Company, or if a participant of the Cincinnati Bell Inc. Savings and Security Plan becomes a participant of the Plan, the Plan account balance is generally transferred to and assumed by the recipient plan. These transfers are included in "Transfers from other Company-sponsored plans, net" on the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits.

Uncertain Tax Positions: U.S. GAAP requires Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. There are no uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is not currently under audit by any taxing jurisdictions.

Use of Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management of the Plan to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of Net Assets Available for Benefits and the reported Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards: In May 2015, the FASB issued Accounting Standard Update ("ASU") 2015-07, Disclosures for Investments in Certain Entities That Calculate Net Asset Value per Share (or Its Equivalent). The standard will be effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015 and will be applied retrospectively. Under the amendments in this update, investments for which fair value is measured at net asset value per share (or its equivalent) using the practical expedient should not be categorized in the fair value hierarchy. This update has no impact on the 2014 plan year. The Company will adopt this pronouncement when it becomes effective for the 2016 plan year.

Table of Contents

CINCINNATI BELL RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(2) Fair Value Measurements

The Plan's investments in the Master Trust are stated at fair value. Mutual funds of the Plan are valued using the quoted market prices of the shares of each applicable mutual fund. The value of the Plan's Cincinnati Bell Inc. Common Stock Fund was determined by the ending share values as last published by the New York Stock Exchange on December 30, 2014 and 2013.

Common collective trust funds are valued at the NAV of units of a collective trust. The NAV, as provided by the trustee, is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. The NAV is based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the fund less its liabilities. This practical expedient is not used when it is determined to be probable that the fund will sell the investment for an amount different than the reported NAV.

Common collective trust funds are stated at fair value as determined by the issuer of the common collective trust funds based on the fair market value of the underlying investments. Common collective trust funds with underlying investments in investment contracts are valued at the fair market value of the underlying investments and then adjusted to contract value. The Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio II Fund (the "MIP Fund"), a commingled pool, is a stable value fund that is presented at fair value and is adjusted to contract value because certain of the fund's investments are fully benefit-responsive investment wrap contracts. A wrap contract is an agreement by another party, such as a bank or insurance company to make payments to a portfolio in certain circumstances. Wrap contracts are designed to allow a stable value portfolio to maintain a constant NAV and to protect a portfolio in extreme circumstances. Wrap contracts accrue interest using a formula called the "crediting rate". The crediting rate formula is used to convert market value changes in the underlying assets into income distributions in order to minimize the difference between market and contract value of the underlying assets over time. Using the crediting formula, an estimated future market value is calculated by compounding a portfolio's current market value at such portfolio's current yield to maturity for a period equal to such portfolio's duration. The crediting rate is the discount rate that equates that estimated future market value with such portfolio's current contract value. Credit rates are reset monthly. The wrap contracts provide a guarantee that the crediting rate will not fall below 0%.

The crediting rate, and hence a portfolio's return, may be affected by many factors, including purchases and redemptions by unitholders. The impact depends on whether the market value of the underlying assets is higher or lower than the contract value of those assets. If the market value of underlying assets is higher than their contract value, the crediting rate will ordinarily be higher than the yield of the underlying assets. If the market value of underlying assets is lower than their contract value, the crediting rate will ordinarily be lower than the yield of the underlying assets. If a portfolio experiences significant redemptions when the market value is below the contract value, a portfolio's yield may be reduced significantly, to a level that is not competitive with other investment options. This may result in additional redemptions, which would tend to lower the crediting rate further. If redemptions continued, a portfolio's yield could be reduced to zero. If redemptions continued thereafter, a portfolio might have insufficient assets to meet redemption requests, at which point a portfolio would require payments from the wrap issuer to pay further unitholder redemptions. The overall effective yield and crediting interest rate for the MIP Fund was approximately 1.7% and 1.4%, respectively for 2014 and 1.6% and 1.1%, respectively for 2013.

Participants ordinarily may direct the withdrawal or transfer of all or a portion of their investment at contract value. Contract value represents contributions made to the common collective trust funds, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. The common collective trust funds impose certain restrictions on the Plan, and the common collective trusts may be subject to circumstances that impact its ability to transact at contract value. Such events include: the Plan's failure to qualify under Section 401(a) of the IRC; the establishment of a Plan or similar fund that competes for employee contributions; changes in laws or regulations that could have a material adverse effect on the fund's cash flow; amendments to the plan documents (including complete or partial termination or merger into an external plan); bankruptcy of the Plan sponsor or other Plan sponsor events (e.g. divestitures or spin-offs of a subsidiary) which cause a significant withdrawal from the plan. A wrap issuer may terminate a wrap

contract if all of the terms of the wrap contract fail to be met. In the event that the market value of the covered assets is below contract value at the time of such termination, the terminating wrap provider would not be required to make a payment. Plan management believes that the occurrence of events that would cause the common collective trust funds to transact at less than contract value is not probable. Redemption for common collective trust funds is permitted daily and there are no unfunded commitments.

ASC 820 established a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value as follows:

Level 1 - Quoted market prices for identical instruments in an active market;

Level 2 - Quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability (i.e., interest rates, yield curves, etc.), and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means (market corroborated inputs); and

Table of ContentsCINCINNATI BELL RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Level 3 - Unobservable inputs that reflect management's determination of assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. These inputs are developed based on the best information available, including our own data.

There were no significant transfers between the fair value hierarchy levels in the year ended December 30, 2014. At December 30, 2014 and 2013, the fair value and placement in the fair value hierarchy of the underlying assets of the Cincinnati Bell Retirement Savings Plans Master Trust (the "Master Trust") that are required to be measured at fair value on a recurring basis are as follows:

| (dollars in thousands) | December 30, 2014 | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|-----------|---------|
| Mutual funds | | | | |
| Equity funds | \$ 162,812 | \$ 162,812 | \$— | \$— |
| Target date retirement funds | 62,900 | 62,900 | — | — |
| Fixed income funds | 19,296 | 19,296 | — | — |
| Balanced fund | 4,561 | 4,561 | — | — |
| Common collective trust funds | | | | |
| Stable value fund | 22,584 | — | 22,584 | — |
| Equity fund | 21,687 | — | 21,687 | — |
| Common stocks | | | | |
| Common shares of Cincinnati Bell Inc. | 10,731 | 10,731 | — | — |
| Total assets at fair value | \$ 304,571 | \$ 260,300 | \$ 44,271 | \$— |

| (dollars in thousands) | December 30, 2013 | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|-----------|---------|
| Mutual funds | | | | |
| Equity funds | \$ 156,158 | \$ 156,158 | \$— | \$— |
| Target date retirement funds | 52,076 | 52,076 | — | — |
| Fixed income funds | 20,170 | 20,170 | — | — |
| Balanced fund | 3,857 | 3,857 | — | — |
| Common collective trust funds | | | | |
| Stable value fund | 24,389 | — | 24,389 | — |
| Equity Fund | 17,234 | — | 17,234 | — |
| Common stocks | | | | |
| Common shares of Cincinnati Bell Inc. | 12,417 | 12,417 | — | — |
| Total assets at fair value | \$ 286,301 | \$ 244,678 | \$ 41,623 | \$— |

(3) Interest in Master Trust

At December 30, 2014 and 2013, the Plan's assets were held by the Master Trust. The Master Trust holds only the assets of the Plan and the Cincinnati Bell Inc. Savings and Security Plan.

The purpose of the Master Trust is the collective investment of assets of the Plan and the Cincinnati Bell Inc. Savings and Security Plan (collectively the "Savings Plans"). Master Trust assets are allocated to the Savings Plans by assigning to each plan those transactions (primarily contributions and benefit payments) which can be specifically identified to that Savings Plan. When applicable, net investment income, gains and losses, and expenses resulting from the collective investment of the assets are allocated to the Savings Plans in proportion to the fair value of the assets allocated to the Savings Plans.

Table of ContentsCINCINNATI BELL RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of December 30, 2014 and 2013, the Plan's percentage of assets held in the Master Trust was 73%. The following table presents the fair value of the total investments held by the Master Trust, in which the Plan invests:

| (dollars in thousands) | December 30, | |
|--|--------------|-----------|
| | 2014 | 2013 |
| Mutual funds and common collective trust funds | \$293,840 | \$273,884 |
| Common shares of Cincinnati Bell Inc. | 10,731 | 12,417 |
| Net assets available to participating plans at fair value | \$304,571 | \$286,301 |
| Adjustment from fair value to contract value for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts | (325 |) (344 |
| Net assets available to participating plans | \$304,246 | \$285,957 |

During the plan year ended December 30, 2014, realized and unrealized gains and interest and dividends on investments held by the Master Trust were as follows:

| (dollars in thousands) | Gain on Investments | | Interest and Dividends |
|--|---------------------|------------|------------------------|
| | Realized | Unrealized | |
| Mutual funds and common collective trust funds | \$1,386 | \$7,809 | \$12,437 |
| Common shares of Cincinnati Bell Inc. | 69 | (850 |) — |
| | \$1,455 | \$6,959 | \$12,437 |

The Plan's portion of the gains on the Master Trust's investments and interest and dividends for the plan year ended December 30, 2014 was as follows:

| (dollars in thousands) | Gain on Investments | | Interest and Dividends |
|--|---------------------|------------|------------------------|
| | Realized | Unrealized | |
| Mutual funds and common collective trust funds | \$1,189 | \$5,764 | \$9,174 |
| Common shares of Cincinnati Bell Inc. | 52 | (488 |) — |
| | \$1,241 | \$5,276 | \$9,174 |

Based on fair value, the Plan's share of the investments held in the Master Trust as of December 30, 2014 and 2013 that individually represent 5 percent or more of the Plan's net assets available for plan benefits at fair value was as follows:

| (dollars in thousands) | December 30, | |
|---|--------------|----------|
| | 2014 | 2013 |
| Fidelity Growth Company Fund | \$29,505 | \$26,501 |
| Vanguard Windsor II Fund | 24,632 | 23,767 |
| Fidelity Mid-Cap Stock Fund | 21,937 | 22,047 |
| Fidelity U.S. Equity Index Commingled Pool Fund | 16,223 | 12,597 |
| Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio II Fund | 14,193 | 15,893 |
| PIMCO Total Return Fund | 13,652 | 14,427 |
| Vanguard Mid-Cap Value Index Fund | 12,397 | * |
| American Funds EuroPacific Growth Fund | 11,973 | 12,928 |
| LKCM Small Cap Equity Fund | 11,645 | 13,093 |

* Investment did not exceed 5% of the Plan's net assets available for plan benefits at fair value.

(4) Amendment or Termination of the Plan

While the Company has not expressed any intent to terminate the Plan, it reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan at any time.

10

Table of ContentsCINCINNATI BELL RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(5) Tax Status

The Internal Revenue Service issued on October 22, 2011, a favorable determination that the Plan meets the requirements of Section 401(a) of the Code and is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(a) of the Code.

(6) Related Party Transactions

The Plan invests in the Master Trust, and the Master Trust's investments include shares of Cincinnati Bell Inc. common stock and shares of mutual funds managed by Fidelity. Cincinnati Bell is the sponsor and administrator of the Plan, and Fidelity is the Plan's trustee. Therefore, these investments qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Fees paid by the Plan to these parties-in-interest for the plan year were \$21,514.

The amount of common stock of Cincinnati Bell Inc. held in the Master Trust for the Plan was 1,907,739 and 2,021,442 shares with a cost basis of \$9,339,580 and \$10,157,918 at December 30, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

(7) Concentrations, Risks, and Uncertainties

The Master Trust has a significant concentration of investments in Cincinnati Bell Inc. common stock. A change in the value of the stock could cause the value of the Plan's net assets to change significantly due to this concentration. The Plan provides for various investment options in money market funds, mutual funds, commingled funds, and Cincinnati Bell Inc. common stock. Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term, and those changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits.

(8) Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500:

| (dollars in thousands) | December 30, | |
|--|--------------|-----------|
| | 2014 | 2013 |
| Net assets available for benefits per financial statements | \$226,408 | \$212,930 |
| Adjustment from contract value to fair value for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts | 204 | 224 |
| Net assets available for benefits per the Form 5500 | \$226,612 | \$213,154 |

The following is a reconciliation of investment loss per the financial statements to the Form 5500:

| (dollars in thousands) | December 30, | |
|---|--------------|------|
| | 2014 | 2013 |
| Investment income from Master Trust per financial statements | \$15,691 | |
| Adjustment from contract value to fair value for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts for the year ended December 30, 2013 | (224 |) |
| Adjustment from contract value to fair value for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts for the year ended December 30, 2014 | 204 | |
| Net investment gain per the Form 5500 | \$15,671 | |

Table of Contents

CINCINNATI BELL RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)
DECEMBER 30, 2014
FORM 5500 SCHEDULE H (FORM 5500)
EIN 31-1056105
PLAN NUMBER - 002
(Dollars in thousands)

| Issuer | Description of Investment | Current Value |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Participant loans* | 6 to 360 months (4.3% - 10.5%) | \$4,485 |

*Party-in-interest

12

Table of Contents

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the trustees (or other persons who administer the employee benefit plan) have duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

By: Cincinnati Bell Inc.

June 29, 2015

/s/ Sarah E. Simpson

By: Sarah E. Simpson

Secretary - Employees' Benefit Committee

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit
Number Description

23.1 Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm - Barnes, Dennig & Co., LTD

14